

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

NEWS RELEASE

Department of Toxic Substances Control

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Imminent and Substantial Endangerment Order Issued to Pacific Steel, Inc.

SAN DIEGO —The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) today announced that it has issued an imminent and substantial endangerment (ISE) order to Pacific Steel, Inc., which requires the National City facility to immediately cease treatment, storage, and disposal of hazardous wastes.

"This order is based on numerous violations of the State's hazardous waste management law," said Ed Lowry, DTSC Director. "It also ensures that a work plan for appropriate investigation and cleanup of the site will be in place in 60 days."

The ISE order requires Pacific Steel to cover all waste piles maintained at the National City facility to prevent the release into the environment of heavy metals generated by the storage of auto shredder waste. It also requires that within 60 days, Pacific Steel shall submit to DTSC a work plan and schedule for the investigation and cleanup of hazardous waste or hazardous waste constituents at or released from the facility.

DTSC discovered the violations while responding to a complaint regarding activities at the Pacific Steel facility.

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The Department of Toxic Substances Control's mission is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment and ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention.

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"The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our Web-site at www.dtsc.ca.gov."